

I am available for any parishioner who needs me. My mobile number is 07554427063. Please feel free to contact me to have a chat or to have prayers or a mass said for someone.

Jan 23rd-30th

Sat: 23rd Margaret Murray's ints

Sat: 23rd Walter Flanagan RIP

Sun: 24th Beth Monaghan RIP

Sun: 24th Fr Joe Foley's ints

Mon: 25th Beth Monaghan RIP

Tue: 26th Heda Mangan RIP

Wed: 27th

Thur: 28th Beth Monaghan RIP

Fri: 29th Peter Lynch RIP

Sat: 30th

Mass times open to attend

Mass on Sat Eve 6pm

Mass on Sunday 9am and 11am

You must book ahead as usual.

Wednesday Adoration and Holy

Hour 7pm-8pm

Rosary after Mass on Friday

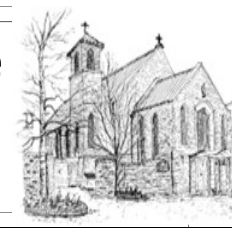
Mass on Tuesday and Friday open to

attend. Book ahead

While we are open for Mass please do not attend if you are shielding or in the Vulnerable group. We all need to be safe.



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



Parish Priest: Fr. David O'Sullivan

Telephone: 01235 762374 Mobile: 07554427063

Office e-mail: wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

2021 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B



Wanted: Something More Important

“Wanted:- Men and women willing to leave behind their old way of life and become fishers men.”

There aren't many of us who would jump at this job application. It isn't that we don't want to become fishers of men, it's leaving behind our old way of life that we're not too keen on. It seems that there is very little that would persuade us to abandon our own self-interest.

In today's gospel one of the most impressive elements is that the early disciples accept the call to repent, abandon their fishing nets and follow Jesus. That they turn away from a successful business in order to become 'fishers of men' is a measure of their commitment.

Today there are still those who accept the challenge to abandon everything and become fishers of men. Each year, thousands of men and women give their lives to God and join religious orders. How do the rest of us answer to call to become 'fishers of men'? We can't all join religious orders; we have to find a way of answering the call in our own situation, and we might have lots of questions to ask first. What would being a disciple involve? Would we be up to the job? What would we have to leave behind? What would we have to give up? Would part time discipleship be okay ... after all we've got lots else to do!

There would be lots of questions we would ask, but sadly no easy answers. There is no one answer that is right for everybody. But the one important message for us today is that discipleship usually means a major shift in direction; a change that involves leaving behind things that get in the way of our relationship with God. It is left to each of us to decide what our particular mode of discipleship might be, and what stands in the path of our new direction. Our new direction has to start with some good hard soul searching, and a real desire to do something more important with our lives.



In your prayers, please remember all who have recently died especially Mary Derbyshire. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Pete Gray, Sybil Murphy, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Wendy Purslow, Sue Maher, Cedric Andrews, and all those suffering during this pandemic. Please contact the office if you would like someone to be added to our sick list.

Message from the Cathedral

Next weekend we take the annual second collection in support of your Cathedral in Portsmouth. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family. Due to the lockdown and restrictions being imposed on many people travelling, a 'Give as you Live' page has also been created to enable you to donate online at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal>

Collections Thank You

If you would like to continue supporting the Church through the period of close-down your weekly/ monthly offering can be made online using this name and account number: **PRCDT Wantage St John Vianney Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account Number: 01720016 Account Name: PRCDTR Wantage St. John Vianney.** Please remember that you can always drop your donation into the Presbytery letterbox. Same Account for Wantage and Lambourn



Conversion of St Paul January 25th

When we are struggling to find change in our lives, we could hardly do better than look to the story of Saul, the great persecutor of Christians, who saw the light on the road to Damascus. The story of the conversion of Saul, from the persecutor of Christians to the zealous and holy instrument of evangelisation, Paul, shows the strength of God's power in our lives, and how He can change anything. Although misguided, Saul had always been sincere and committed. In him God saw a tremendous instrument for all that he wanted to accomplish. The lesson here is to remember that for God, nothing is impossible.



Holocaust Memorial Day 27th January 2021

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2021 is **Be the light in the darkness**. It encourages everyone to reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide.

Be the light in the darkness is an affirmation and a call to action for everyone marking HMD. This theme asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example, identity-based persecution, misinformation, denial of justice; and different ways of 'being the light', for example, resistance, acts of solidarity, rescue and illuminating mistruths. We can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to be the light in the darkness in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online.

Towards a Culture of Safeguarding - E-Learning Safeguarding

Awareness The Catholic Trust for England and Wales has purchased a package of e-learning programmes available to all members of the Catholic community free of charge. This is part of the Church's ongoing commitment to safeguarding. ☐ Child Protection ☐ Child Exploitation ☐ Online Safety ☐ Safeguarding Adults ☐ Mental Capacity

What do I need to do to access this training resource? 1. To register just email: safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 2. Your email should contain: ☐ Your name (Surname, Forename) ☐ E-mail address ☐ The name of your parish/order/congregation ☐ Your role (eg Catechist) 3. The Diocesan Safeguarding Administrator will register your email address with EduCare. 4. You will receive a welcome email from EduCare inviting you to set your password. 5. You will then have instant access to the training programmes. If you need further information please contact the Portsmouth Diocesan Safeguarding Office

While we are currently open for public worship it is important that you keep safe. Please do not attend if you are shielding or vulnerable. We have come this far safely so let's be sensible. Of course if you are unwell or showing any symptoms you must isolate and not attend Church. If you do attend please remember that you must not socialise outside church either before or after Mass. Be safe.

Travels with my bro....



I'm afraid we had to give in eventually. Tomorrow came. Rowing was becoming too difficult with all that food around our midriffs. Poor Br.M was huffing and puffing with every stroke which was becoming a little embarrassing as we rowed past little groups of people.

It was like a scene from Spartacus while he was in the Roman galleon. I know its typecasting, but I looked like the nasty centurion whipping him, albeit the wheezing did drive me crazy.

We have decided to do dry January as a start. I know many of you are thinking it's a bit late, but you have to start somewhere. As February is generally Foodie Feb, we need to get a head start. The south coast of Spain is too food friendly to go without. As we are so close to leaving Portugal we need to be reacquainted with the deliciousness that is the south of Spain. Thank you to those who took my suggestion of the John the Baptist diet seriously. I now know where to source live locusts and the honey was donated from a local Wantage apiary. I knew I should have said that we were doing the claret diet!! Nothing but fine claret for a month. Fat free at least. I did taste locusts once while in Sana the capitol of Yemen. Nothing like chicken! Nutty but with legs. It will never catch on. I'd rather go vegan. The sightseeing in this city is wonderful. A great mix of Spanish and Moorish. The Cathedral is well worth a few hours.

This great monument was started in 1251, just two years after Faro had been "reconquered" from the Moors. The facade, dominated by a square Gothic tower, one of the few things that dates back to the cathedral's earliest years. If you scale the tower you get a marvellous panoramic view of the city. Albeit, I was a little nervous of climbing a tower. We can all remember what happened the last time. The beginning of all my troubles with BrP. The remainder of the building has changed because of an attack by the English in the 1596, razing almost everything. In the 17th and 18th century the interiors were enriched with the luxurious gilded woodwork and tile panels that were in style. The altar and side chapels gleam with gold, and the walls of the choir have multi-coloured azulejos. I insisted that we went to the Arco de Vila, the old city gate as just above the portal you can see a statue of St Thomas Aquinas in an alcove. I also took Br.M to the Capela dos Ossos (Chapel of Bones) as it displays the bones of more than 1,200 monks from the Carmelite cemetery. A timely reminder of what might happen if the diet didn't work. I have to finish with a little Meldrew moment as I haven't had one in ages. Guess what's on sale in the shops? Hot Crosses Buns. I don't believe it!!! Its not even Lent yet. God bless all and keep safe.